News Advisory



March 3, 2004

Contact:Michaele DeBoer (562) 889-5433

California State Parks, Sierra Club Event

Building Bridges to the Outdoors Brings Inner City Youth To Ocean, Mountains for First Time

LOS ANGELES -- Many Southern California youth have never seen the ocean or visited the mountains. However, students from Crenshaw High School will have the opportunity to experience the great outdoors this weekend in the Building Bridges to the Outdoors 2004 Program sponsored by California State Parks and the Sierra Club.

WHAT: Building Bridges to the Outdoors 2004 will focus on building leadership qualities and provide wilderness skills and an understanding of the important role African-Americans played in the settling of the West.

The program, which will mark the first outdoor experience for many of the students, will include a cultural presentation by the Buffalo Soldiers, a presentation on wilderness skills by REI, Inc., an evening hike and a visit to the Point Magu Whale Festival.

WHEN: Saturday, March 6, and Sunday, March 7.

A press conference will be held Saturday at 12:30 p.m. Members of the news media will be escorted to the press conference and must RSVP by 5 p.m. Friday, March 5. Please contact Michaele DeBoer of State Parks at (562) 889-5433, or Martin LeBlanc of the Sierra Club at (916) 284-1535 if you plan to attend.

WHERE: Point Mugu State Park, Malibu

WHO: Crenshaw High School Students of Los Angeles
Buffalo Solders of Los Angeles
Sierra Club
California State Parks
REI, Inc.

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